

Submission Date	2013-01-06 18:16:38
Observer's Name	Nick Bolgiano
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Observer's Address	Street Address: 711 W. Foster Ave. City: State College State / Province: PA Postal / Zip Code: 16801 Country: United States
Species (Common Name)	Dark-eyed Junco
Species (Scientific Name)	Junco hyemalis
Subspecies (if known)	Oregon
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	hatch-year female
Observation Date and Time	12-31-2012 8:30 AM
County	Centre
Location (City, Borough, Township)	State College Borough
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	711 W. Foster Ave.
GPS coordinates of sighting	40.78677, -77.86639
Habitat	backyard ground bird feeder, with nearby bushes
Distance to bird	5 ft
Viewing conditions	excellent
Optical equipment used	Swarovski EL 8x32, Canon 7D with 300 mm lens and 1.4 tele-extender
Description	Here is how Bob Mulvihill said about the bird: It's a hatching year bird based on juvenal tertials and outer greater coverts, which makes it a little harder to pin down (first-year juncos frequently show a generalized suffusion of brown through their dorsal plumage). But, the dark gray hood and the rich reddish brown sides, flanks, and back give me an overall Oregon (<i>Junco hyemalis oregonus</i>) impression. Cassiar's juncos (<i>J. h. cismontanus</i>) rarely show this

	<p>much contrast between the hood and back, and the brown sides typically are not as reddish in color (produced by phaeomelanins, as I recall). First-year female Oregon is a good fit IMO.</p>
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	<p>The bird came throughout the day to eat millet scattered on my deck, on a day with several inches of new snow. It would feed for short periods of time before being chased by male Slate-colored Juncos. I saw it about six times during the day, but not after that day.</p>
Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)	<p>I eliminated a browner Slate-colored Junco by the brown side distinct from the gray hood. The choice was thus between Oregon and Cassiar - I posted the picture A to the PA Bird ID facebook page and Bob Mulvihill replied as above. Bob makes a good argument that the rich reddish brown back and the distinct hood distinguish it from Cassiar.</p>
Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)	<p>Not having experience separating Oregon vs. Cassiar, Bob M's ID makes sense</p>
During	<p>Sibley, National Geographic guide edition 6</p>
After	<p>Beadle and Rising (2002) Sparrows of the United States and Canada, Rising (1996). The Sparrows of the United States and Canada</p>
Supporting evidence (check all that apply)	<p>Photograph</p>
Upload images, audio, video or drawings	<p>Oregon Junco Nick Bolgiano 12 31 2012a.jpg</p>
Click to edit	<p>PORC-webform00093</p>





